SUBJECTS.

(2) Other Industries.

45. The need for organising a separate Industrial Department and adopting other measures to promote the development of Industries in the State.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Karunagappalli taluk) said that the staple produce of the State was paddy and yet enormous quantities of paddy and rice were imported into the country annually to meet the demand. The only way to improve the material condition of a people was by industrial occupation, and in Travancore, though there were great facilities for industrial development, yet it was neglected. The Member drew attention to the various raw material, fit for some of the most important industries, that were annually exported from the country and thus lost to the State, to the loss sustained by purchasing at high prices foreign manufactured articles made out of materials supplied by the State, and to the sheer waste of some of the important raw material, such as plantain fibre, &c. He pointed out the necessity of starting various industries in the land and deplored that capital, skill &c., the necessary requisites for the same, did not sufficiently exist. In his opinion, the Government alone could make a beginning in this direction, as the people with their slender means, conservative mode of conduct and absence of technical education, were not, under the existing circumstances, to be expected to start any manufactures.

The Member then suggested the following measures with a view to develop the material resources of the country, (1) that Co-operative Credit Societies should be started, (2) that Technical Schools should be opened in each Division, (3) that an Industrial Survey of the whole State should be conducted through a well constituted committee, (4) that model industries of all kinds should be started, and (5) that liberal pecuniary help should be given to all those who evinced genuine interest in industrial matters. The Member then laid stress on the necessity of establishing a separate Department of Industry, as it was highly necessary for the progress of industries. He said that an agricultural regeneration has taken place since an Agricultural Department had come into existence, and similarly the people would take interest and boldly enter into industrial concerns, if there was an Industrial Department to advice and encourage them. He proposed that, to economise expenditure, the present Director of Agriculture might be appointed Director of Industries also, with the necessary experts to assist him.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

46. The Government should take measures to encourage and develop the fishing industry.

Mr. L. H. Netto (Member, Nominated) said that the staple industry of the people living on the sea coast was fishing. The methods employed for fish catching

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly